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possession

noun pos·ses·sion \-'ze-shən also -'se-
 : the condition of having or owning something
 : something that is owned or possessed by someone
 law : the crime of having something that is illegal (such as a drug or weapon)

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Full Definition of POSSESSION

1 a : the act of having or taking into control
 b : control or occupancy of property without regard to ownership
 c : OWNERSHIP
 d : control of the ball or puck; also : an instance of having such control (as in football) <scored on their first two *possessions*>

2 : something owned, occupied, or controlled : PROPERTY

3 a : domination by something (as an evil spirit, a passion, or an idea)
 b : a psychological state in which an individual's normal personality is replaced by another
 c : SELF-POSSESSION

— **pos·ses·sion·al** \-'zesh-nəl, -'ze-shə-nəl/ also -'sesh-nəl or -'se-shə-nəl/ adjective
 — **pos·ses·sion·less** \-'ze-shən-ləs, -'se-l/ adjective

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Examples of POSSESSION

The city can *take possession* of the abandoned buildings.
 She *came into possession* of a rare silver coin.
 The family lost all of its *possessions* in the fire.
 This ring was my mother's most precious *possession*.
 The defendant was charged with heroin *possession*.

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First Known Use of POSSESSION

14th century

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POSSSESSION Defined for Kids

possession

noun pos ses sion 'pa-ze-shən'

Definition of POSSESSION for Kids

1 : the condition of having or owning something <The will is in my *possession*.>

2 : something that is held by someone as property <a valuable *possession*>

Learn More About POSSESSION

- Thesaurus: All synonyms and antonyms for "possession"
- Spanish Central: Spanish translation of "possession"
- SCRABBLE®: Playable words you can make from "possession"
- Britannica.com: Encyclopedia article about "possession"

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